

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 ARA-10 /099 W
-----060885 270634Z /11

R 260815Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6669
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1693

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINS, PBOR, ET, SO
SUBJ: WSLF AND SALF COMMENT ON OBJECTIVES, GSDR SUPPORT
FOR INSURGENCY

REF: MOGADISCIO 1624

1. ITALIAN COUNSELLOR ROSSELLINI USED OPPORTUNITY
OF VISIT TO ITALIAN EMBASSY OF WESTERN SOMALI AND
SOMALI ABO LIBERATION FRONT REPRESENTATIVES FOR VISAS
FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION WHICH HE LATER SHARED WITH US.
MAIN POINTS WHICH EMERGED DURING CONVERSATION WERE:

2. REPRESENTATIVES EMPHASIZED THAT THEY HAD PLENTY
OF ARMS AT THIS TIME AND WERE NOT IN NEED OF ANY AND
NOT LOOKING FOR THEM. THE ONLY REAL HELP GIVEN BY
THE SDR WAS SOME MILITARY TRAINING FOR OGADENIS
WHO THEN RETURNED TO ACTIVE UNITS IN THE FIELD.

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ROSSELLINI SAID, HOWEVER, THAT ONE OF THE SALF REPS
TOLD HIM THAT THE GSDR WAS STILL SUPPLYING LIGHT ARMS
TO THE WSLF AND SALF, BUT "ONLY AS MUCH AS COULD BE
CARRIED BY ONE FIGHTER."

3. THE TERRAIN IN THE SALF AREAS OF BALE AND SIDAMO
PROVINCES ARE MORE SUITABLE FOR GUERILLA ACTIVITY THAN

THE WSLF AREA OF HARAR PROVINCE. NO REGULAR ETHIOPIAN TROOPS ARE FOUND IN BALE AND SIDAMO NOW, ONLY MILITIA. THERE HAS BEEN NO FIGHTING WITH ANY KENYAN TROOPS, AND THE SALF HAS EXPRESSED NO INTEREST IN THE NORTHEAST PROVINCE AREA. RUSSIANS AND CUBANS ARE KEEPING TO URBAN CENTERS, AND ARE AFRAID TO LEAVE THEIR CAMPS.

4. WSLF/SALF WISH TO ESTABLISH AN IDENTITY SEPARATE FROM THAT OF THE SDR. THEY MENTIONED THAT THEY WANT SELF-DETERMINATION AS A KIND OF PREPARATORY STAGE FOR FULL INDEPENDENCE -- DJIBOUTI WAS GIVEN AS AN EXAMPLE. AT THIS TIME, HOWEVER, THE WSLF FINDS ITSELF CLOSELY TIED TO MOGADISCIO MORE SO THAN THE SALF.

5. THE SALF AND WSLF HAVE BEEN KEEPING IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH DISSIDENT ETHIOPIANS.

6. BOTH GROUPS SEEMED RABIDLY ANTI-SOVIET.

7. THE SALF IS SENDING A DELEGATION PARALLEL TO THAT BEING SENT BY WSLF (REPORTED REFTEL). THE SALF REPRESENTATIVES ARE:

WAQO GUTU USSO, FOUNDER AND LEADER OF THE MOVEMENT, IN LATE FIFTIES;

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YUSSUF HASSAN GABABA, MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE;

MOHAMED RASHID ADEN.

ALL WERE TRAVELLING ON SDR DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS. SALF AND WSLF DELEGATIONS LEFT FOR EUROPE ON JULY 23. THE REPS MENTIONED THAT THEY HOPE TO ESTABLISH OFFICES IN PARIS, ROME, LONDON AND BONN.

8. A WSLF DELEGATION TO THE FAR EAST, TO BE LED BY DANAB EDITOR AHMED NASIR, IS ALSO BEING PLANNED. VOUGHT

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